

THE  
MEMORIAL  
OF THE  
HEER VAN DIEST,  
Envoy Extraordinary  
Of His Electoral HIGHNESS of  
BRANDENBURGH.  
To the High and Mighty the Lords STATES GENERAL of the  
UNITED PROVINCES:

Delivered May the 29th. 1664.

*High and Mighty Lords*

THE under-written Envoy Extraordinary from his Electoral Highness of Brandenburg hath by special Order of His Most Gracious Master in the last Conference Represented at large to your High and Mightinesses, Deputies: The grief which his Electoral Highness had upon him, concerning the imminent and almost inevitable danger into which this State was involved by the Consequence of the War between those two Mighty Crowns.

That his Electoral Highness had for many, and Natural Reasons taken to heart, the Welfare and Conservation of this State, as were it his own, and did always continue his Sincere and Cordial Friendship.

That his Electoral Highness at Times and Occasions hath given evident Proofs thereof:

That his Electoral Highness had never found Affairs, so Intricate and Desperate as now.

That there was no properer Means to be thought upon, to avoid their Total Ruine, then by a most speedy Peace, or Cessation, to make an end of the said War, and to that end to take a prompt (or ready) Resolution.

That this Work should be taken in hand in good earnest.

That it was not time now to Treat about this or the other Conditions.

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That it was to be feared that delay of Time would make it daily more difficult.

That this hath been seen already, and was further to be feared.

That it would be hard to answer to God and to Posterity, if through Despair they should let all things Run on to Confusion, and always to Embrace too late those Conditions which are no more to be obtained.

That his Electoral Highness hath hitherto often diverted, or at least delayed many Inconveniences like to happen to this State, For to give your High and Mightinesses time to think upon their Conservation and Safety, and to deliver themselves out of that Fire which effectually was kindled in the *Low-Countries*.

But that Matters were now gone so far, that his Electoral Highness could see no further how to do any thing in the Business, but with Grief and Trouble to behold the Ruinous Effects that may follow, seeing they would not hearken to his so faithful and often Repeated Warnings.

That time would manifest how Upright and Sincere his Electoral Highness's Intentions towards this State and the General Welfare hath been, and that his Intentions have been quite contrary to what hath often been published by bad men.

That the Great God who knows his Electoral Highness Mind, That it had an Aspect that they through Desperate Resolution, or rather Irresolution, would Involve and Consume themselves, and all their Neighbours into that Fire which is already kindled.

That by all means we ought to preserve *Germany*, and to prevent all Disquietness there.

That they must not flatter themselves here with Hopes of any Forces from those Quarters.

That his Electoral Highness did request them to Reflect upon all these Things seriously and without delay; and that he did hope that this his Well-meaning Representation (to which end his Electoral Highness hath sent the under-written Express) might take some Effect upon the Minds of the Rulers of this State, and put your High & Mightinesses in mind in this Distraction, what may be Convenient for the Preservation of theirs, and their Neighbours Peace, that so they may by Gods Grace Transfer to Posterity both Religion and Liberty, as the two dearest and weightiest Pledges which their Fore-fathers with so much Blood and Goods have obtained, and not to put the same at once, and with so much Disadvantage in the Scale.

The Under-written thought fit to Repeat this by Memorial, That so your High and Mightinesses might the better apprehend the Well-meaning Representation of his Electoral Highness, and thereupon without Delay of Time might fall upon the Business.

*Hague 29th May, 1684.*

*Was Signed*

*FRID. WILL. VAN DIEST.*

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